Amendment to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended)   A system for processing of electronic documents comprising:

image generating means ~~adapted~~ for generating an electronic representation of a paper document;

the image generating means including means ~~adapted~~ for receiving an associated tangible template sheet inclusive of [[an]]a plurality of indicia corresponding to an instruction ~~representative of~~for a desired document processing operation and an instruction specifying a selected electronic document format;

optical recognition means ~~adapted~~ for recognition of the ~~instruction~~instructions;

means ~~adapted~~ for generating an instruction signal in accordance with ~~a~~ recognized ~~instruction~~ instructions; [[and]]

means ~~adapted~~ for controlling ~~processing~~ operation of an associated document processing device on the electronic representation of [[a]]the paper document in accordance with the instruction signal so as to generate an electronic document in the specified electronic document format;

means for generating an output document in accordance with the controlled operation; and

means for communicating the output document in the specified electronic document format to a destination in accordance with the instruction signal.

2. (Currently amended)   The system for processing of electronic documents of claim 1 further comprising means ~~adapted~~ for identifying a location of relevant markings on the template sheet.

3. (Currently amended)   The system for processing of electronic documents of claim 2 wherein the means ~~adapted~~ for identifying [[a]]the location of relevant markings comprised as at least one of check boxes and fill-in boxes.

4. (Currently amended)   The system for processing of electronic documents of claim 1 further comprising means ~~adapted~~ for optically identifying handwritten characters on the template sheet.

5. (Cancelled)

6. (Currently amended)   The system for processing of electronic documents of claim [[5]]1 wherein the ~~routing includes~~ output document is communicated via at least one of electronic mail transmission, facsimile transmission, FTP transmission, HTML transmission, and optical image rendering on an associated display.

7. (Currently amended)   The system for processing of electronic documents of claim 6 wherein the ~~electronic representation of a paper~~ output document is ~~routed~~ communicated to at least one of an electronic mail server, a document management system, an image generating device, and an Internet server.

8. (Currently amended)   The system for processing of electronic documents of claim 1 further comprising verification means ~~adapted~~ for verifying the desired document processing operation.

9. (Currently amended)   A method for processing of electronic documents comprising the steps of:

receiving an electronic representation of a paper document;

receiving an associated tangible template sheet inclusive of [[an]]a plurality of indicia corresponding to an instruction ~~representative of~~ for a desired document processing operation and an instruction specifying a selected electronic document format;

optically recognizing of the ~~instruction~~ instructions;

generating an instruction signal in accordance with [[a]]the recognized ~~instruction~~ instructions; [[and]]

controlling ~~processing~~ operation of an associated document processing device on the electronic representation of [[a]]the paper document in accordance with the instruction signal so as to generate an electronic document in the specified electronic document format;

generating an output document in accordance with controlled operation; and

communicating the output document in the specified electronic document format to a destination in accordance with the instruction signal.

10. (Original) The method for processing of electronic documents of claim 9 further comprising the step of identifying a location of relevant markings on the template sheet.

11. (Currently amended) The method for processing of electronic documents of claim 10 wherein identifying [[a]]the location of relevant markings comprises identifying at least one of check boxes and fill-in boxes.

12. (Original) The method for processing of electronic documents of claim 9 further comprises the step of optically identifying handwritten characters on the template sheet.

13. (Cancelled)

14. (Currently amended) The method for processing of electronic documents of claim [[13]]9 wherein the ~~routing includes~~ output document is communicated via at least one of electronic mail transmission, facsimile transmission, FTP transmission, HTML transmission, and optical image rendering on an associated display.

15. (Currently amended) The method for processing of electronic documents of claim 14 wherein the ~~electronic representation of a paper document is routed~~ output document is

communicated to at least one of an electronic mail server, a document management system, an image generating device, and an Internet server.

16. (Original) The method for processing of electronic documents of claim 9 further comprising the step of verifying the desired document processing operation.

Claims 17-32 (Cancelled)